



10/043,827

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------|---|-----------------|----------------|
| Applicant: | Swart et al. | Examiner: | Becker, Drew |
| Serial No.: | 10/043,827 | Group Art Unit: | 1761 |
| Filed: | January 11, 2002 | Docket No.: | 163.1386-US-U1 |
| Title: | METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR REDUCING MICROBIAL BURDEN ON A FOOD PRODUCT | | |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 16, 2004.

By:

Name:

Debra A Bailey
Debra A Bailey

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 15, 2003, Applicants provide the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

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